# Responding to a **Domestic Violence Restraining Order**

These forms can be used to respond to the court to a request for a Domestic Violence Restraining Order. You must complete the "Answer to Temporary Restraining Order" [DV-120] and have someone over the age of 18 other than you serve a copy of the Answer on the person who is seeking the Restraining Order. The copy may be served by mail. The person who mails the copy to the other party must complete a "Proof of Service by Mail" [DV-25] and you must file that Proof of Service with the court along with the original Answer. The Answer and Proof of Service must be filed at least 3 days before the hearing.

You **MUST** attend the hearing. At the hearing the court may make a 3-year order keeping you away from the person asking for the Restraining Order. The court may also make an order keeping you away from your children and may make permanent custody, visitation and support order. If you do not attend the hearing the court will not hear your side of the story.

This packet includes an "Answer to Temporary Restraining Order" [DV 120] and a "Proof of Service by Mail" [DV-250].

**NOTE:** The Family Law Facilitator can review your documents and assist you in correcting any mistakes before you submit your forms to the court.

## Information for the Restrained Person

## What is a restraining order?

It is a court order.

#### What does the order do?

It can order you to:

- Not contact or go near the protected person
- Not have a gun while the order is in effect
- Move out of the house
- Follow child custody and visitation orders
- · Pay child support and
- · Pay spousal support

Read the order carefully. If you disobey the order, you can go to jail or be fined.

## What if I have a gun?

You cannot own, possess, or have a gun or firearm while the order is in effect. If you have a gun now, you must sell it to a licensed gun dealer or turn it in to police. Read Form DV-810.

## Should I go to the hearing?

Yes. Go to court on the hearing date listed on page 1 of Form DV-110. If you do not go to court, the judge can make the orders without hearing from you.

# How do I tell my side of the story?

File Form DV-120 before the hearing date. Also, have someone mail it to the person who asked for the order or to the person's lawyer. This is "Service." The person who mails it must fill out and sign a *Proof of Service by Mail* (DV-250). File the *Proof of Service* with the court clerk. Keep a copy.

#### Do I have to get a lawyer?

No. But it is a good idea, especially if you have children. Ask the clerk how to find free or low-cost legal services.

# What if I also have criminal charges against me?

See a lawyer. Anything you say or write can be used against you in your criminal case.

#### What if I am a victim of domestic violence?

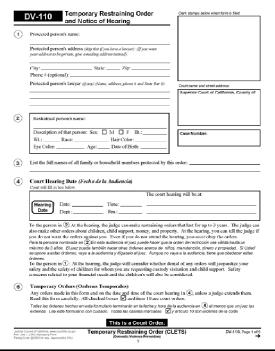
Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline:

1-800-799-7233

TDD: 1-800-787-3224

Ask them who can help you file a restraining order.





## Information for the Restrained Person

## Can I bring a witness to the court hearing?

You can bring witnesses or documents that support your case, but the judge may not have enough time to talk to the witnesses. So bring their written statements of what they saw or heard. You must file and mail witness statements at least 10 days before the hearing or when you mail your Answer (DV-120) to the protected person.

## Will I see the protected person at the court hearing?

If the protected person comes to the hearing, you will see him or her. Do not talk to the protected person unless the judge says you can.

## How long does the order last?

The first (temporary) order lasts until your next court date. At that time, the judge will decide to grant or deny the order. The order can last for up to 3 years, but child custody, visitation, child support and spousal support orders have different end dates. Custody, visitation, and child support orders usually last until the child turns 18.

## What if the protected person contacts me?

No matter what, you have to follow the court order. The order does not affect the protected person. It only affects what *you* can do. Tell the protected person you cannot have contact.

# Can I agree with the protected person to cancel the order?

No. Only the judge can change or cancel the order.

## What happens if I don't obey the court order?

The police can arrest you. You can go to jail and pay a fine.

#### What if I don't have a green card?

The order is valid whether you have a green card or not. If you are worried about being deported, talk to an immigration lawyer.

#### What if I don't speak English?

Ask someone who speaks English to call the court clerk at least a week before your hearing. Ask for a court interpreter. You may have to pay a fee. If an interpreter is not available, bring someone to interpret for you. Do not ask a child to interpret for you.

#### What if I am deaf?

If you are deaf, contact the clerk at least 1 week before the hearing. Ask for an interpreter or other accommodation.

	D١	V-120 Restraining Order	Cierk stamps date nere when form is filed.
1	Na	name of person who asked for the order (protected person):	
2	Yo	our name:	
		our address (skip this if you have a lawyer): (If you want your add be private, give a mailing address instead):	dress
	Cit	ty: State: Zip:	Fill in court name and street address:
	Yo	our telephone (optional):	SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
	Yo	our lawyer (if you have one): (Name, address, telephone number, ad State Bar number):	COUNTY OF FRESNO  1100 Van Ness Avenue Fresno, California 93724-0002
	Gi	ive the judge your answers to DV-100:	Clerk fills in case number:
	_		Case Number:
3)		Personal Conduct Orders  I □ do □ do not agree to the order requested.	
4		Stay-Away Order	
		I $\square$ do $\square$ do not agree to the order requested.	The judge can consider your Answer at the
<b>(5</b> )		Move-Out Order	hearing. Write your hearing date and time here:
$\overline{}$		I $\square$ do $\square$ do not agree to the order requested.	Hearing Date: Time:
<b>6</b>	П	Child Custody	Hearing Date: Time: Room:
		a. I □ do □ do not agree to the custody order requested.	
		b. $\square$ I am not the parent of the child listed in DV-105.	You must obey the orders until the hearing.
		c. $\square$ I ask for the following custody order (specify):	If you do not come to this hearing, the judge
		c. $\square$ Task for the following custody order (specify).	can make the orders last for 3 years or longer.
		d I	nt shill shidwation
		d. I \( \subseteq \) do not agree to the orders requested to preven	nt child abduction.
<b>7</b> )		Visitation	
		a. I $\square$ do $\square$ do not agree to the visitation order requested	
		b. I ask for the following visitation order ( <i>specify</i> ):	
8		Child Support	
		a. I ☐ do ☐ do not agree to the order requested.	
		b. $\square$ I agree to pay guideline child support.	
		You must fill out, serve, and file Form FL-150 or FL-155.	
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9		Spousal Support	
_		I $\square$ do $\square$ do not agree to the order requested.	
		Whether or not you agree, you must fill out, serve, and file Form	n FL-150.

sign your name	əmpn vuoy tnirq ro sa	$K_{\underline{L}}$	
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perjury under the laws of the State of California that the information above is true and	sclare under penalty of	b I	(20)
Statements in DV-100 and Other Requests statements $^{9}$ Statements in DV-120, Item $^{19}$ —More Information" at the top. Be specific.			<b>6</b> l
e, and file Form FL-150.	Ano liif teum nox		
Amount: \$ Amount: \$	Item:		
expenses because the temporary restraining order was issued without ring facts. The expenses are:	b. Unt-of-pocket		
order payment of my	ask the court to a.  Attorney fees	П	(81)
Thave any guns or firearms. $\Box$ have not turned in my guns and firearms to the police or a licensed gun dealer. receipt $\Box$ is attached. $\Box$ has already been filed with the court. within 72 hours after receiving Form DV-110.	b. □ I □ have   c. □ A copy of the B		<u></u>
item 20 on Form DV-100) agree to the orders requested.			<b>9</b> l
t agree to the order requested.	Batterer Intervent		(12)
sts and Services steet to the order requested.	Payments for Cos I ☐ do ☐ do not		(Jt
d Costs agree to the order requested.	ns eees and tees and I do not		(13)
ortee to the order requested. ests, list them in (19) below.			(1S)
agree to the order requested.			
agree to the order requested. ests, list them in (19) below.	Property Control  I do do not I you have other requ		<b>(10</b> )
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Case Number:

SHORT TITLE: -		CASE NUMBER:	
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numbers):	The items on this page stated on information and bel	ief are (specify item nur	mbers, <b>not</b> line
This page may be used with an	ny Judicial Council form or any other paper filed with	the court.	Page

DV-250 Proof of Service by Mail	Clerk stamps below when form is filed.
Troof of Service by Main	
Protected person's name:	
Restrained person's name:	
Notice to Server	
You must:  • Be 18 or over.	Court name and street address:
<ul><li> De 18 or over.</li><li> Not be listed on the restraining</li></ul>	
order.	
Mail a copy of all documents	
checked in <b>4</b> to the person in <b>6</b> .	
I mailed to the person in <b>6</b> a copy of all documents checked below:	
a. DV-120 (Answer to Temporary Restraining Order)	Case Number:
b. ☐ FL-150 (Income and Expense Declaration)	
c.   Gimplified Financial Statement)	
d. DV-130 (Restraining Order After Hearing)	
e.   Other (specify):	
Remember: You cannot serve DV-100, DV-105, DV-110, or DV-125 by mail.	
I placed copies of the documents checked above in a sealed envelope a	and mailed them as listed below:
a. Date: b. Mailed from (city):	
c. Mailed to (write name):	
d. At this address:	
d. At this address.	
Server's Information	
Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
(If you are a process server):	
County of registration: Registra	ration number:
I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Californic.	
Date:	
<b>&gt;</b>	
Type or print server's name Server to sign	here